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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/691,792	10/18/2000	Yakov Kamen	ISURFTV116	5769

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EXAMINER

SALTARELLI, DOMINIC D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2611

DATE MAILED: 02/01/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/691,792

Applicant(s)

KAMEN ET AL

Examiner

Dominic D. Saltarelli

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 December 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-6 and 8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-6 and 8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on December 16, 2005 has been entered.

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1 have been considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nikolovska et al. (6,281,898) [Nikolovska] in view of Borsuk (5,233,333, of record).

Regarding claim 1, Nikolovska discloses a system for providing an electronic program guide (EPG) presentation (figs. 1-6) for use with a receiver

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(fig. 7) for displaying programs from a plurality of program sources on a plurality of user-selectable channels (the third axis 104 lists the available channels, col. 2, lines 55-65) comprising an EPG presentation generator (fig. 7, processor 2) for generating a displayable EPG presentation (as shown in figs. 1-6), wherein the EPG presentation can be displayed as a three-dimensionally set of three-dimensional surfaces textured by special pre-processed scheduling data (as shown in figs. 1-6, col. 2, lines 41-65) and a signal filter (col. 3, lines 7-12) that is based on an input provided by a user (such as highlighting and selection of items, col. 3, lines 52-67).

Nikolovska fails to disclose the input provided by the user is a request for the use of a different font type and/or the use of a different font size.

In an analogous art, Borsuk teaches providing a user with the option and means to change the font size of displayed text (col. 4, lines 54-60) to accommodate reading of the displayed text by the visually impaired (col. 1, lines 5-15).

It would have been obvious at the time to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the system disclosed by Nikolovska to include offering the choice of different font types and sizes to users, as taught by Borsuk, enabling users either see more EPG listing information at once, or to make the EPG listings larger and easier to read.

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5. Claims 3-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nikolovska and Borsuk as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Beer (5,793,368, of record).

Regarding claim 3, Nikolovska and Borsuk disclose the system of claim 1, but fail to disclose a morphing engine including a database of different EPG presentation solutions, and based on a control command generated by a signal filter, one of said solutions is selected from said database for display.

In an analogous art, Beer discloses a user interface system including a morphing engine (resident PGUI which controls the display, col. 3, lines 50-67) including a database of different presentation solutions (UIL user interface descriptions saved in the local storage unit for later retrieval, col. 3, lines 50-67), and based on a control command (user input) generated by a signal filter (the interface which accepts input from the user input devices, such as pointing device or keyboard, col. 3, lines 16-25), one of said solutions is selected from said database for display (col. 3, lines 23-25), providing the benefit of allowing a user to select from a variety of different styles for a user interface (col. 3, lines 23-25).

It would have been obvious at the time to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the system of Nikolovska and Borsuk to include a morphing engine including a database of different presentation solutions, and based on a control command generated by a signal filter, one of said solutions is selected from said

database for display, as taught by Beer, for the benefit of allowing a user to select from a variety of different styles for the EPG interface.

Regarding claim 4, Nikolovska, Borsuk, and Beer disclose the system of claim 3, wherein the morphing engine comprises a set of parametrical functions (Beer's 'widgets', col. 3, lines 50-67) and a control command generated by the signal filter creates a request for a specific function and its parameters (Beer teaches users can selectively add, delete, select, and modify said widgets, col. 3, lines 50-67).

Regarding claim 5, Nikolovska, Borsuk, and Beer disclose the system of claim 3, wherein the morphing engine comprises a mix of presentation solutions and functions, and a control command generated by the signal filter creates a request for one of said solutions (Beer teaches users may select a visual style, col. 3, lines 23-25, in addition to selecting individual 'widgets', col. 4, lines 50-67).

Regarding claim 6, Nikolovska, Borsuk, and Beer disclose the system of claim 3, wherein the morphing engine comprises a mix of presentation solutions and functions, and a control command generated by the signal filter creates a request for a specific function and its parameters (Beer teaches users may select individual 'widgets', col. 4, lines 50-67, in addition to selecting a visual style, col. 3, lines 23-25).

6. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nikolovska and Borsuk as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Kikinis (6,205,485, listed on the PTO-1449 filed 01/31/02).

Regarding claim 8, Nikolovska and Borsuk disclose the system of claim 1, but fail to disclose the signal filter is based on input from a broadcaster.

In an analogous art, Kikinis teaches receiving commands (command bearing tags, col. 4, lines 44-58) from a broadcaster (transmission is performed via satellite, col. 4, lines 38-43 and col. 5, lines 8-12) which control the display presented to a user (col. 7 line 47 – col. 8 line 9), enabling the broadcaster to control the information presented to a user in the most beneficial manner (col. 5, lines 13-32).

It would have been obvious at the time to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the system disclosed by Nikolovska and Borsuk to base the signal filter on input from a broadcaster, as taught by Kikinis, for the benefit of enabling the broadcaster to control the display presented to the user in the manner most beneficial to the broadcaster and the programming providers.

### ***Conclusion***

7. The following are suggested formats for either a Certificate of Mailing or Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8(a). The certification may be included with all correspondence concerning this application or proceeding to establish a date of mailing or transmission under 37 CFR 1.8(a). Proper use of this procedure will result in such communication being considered as timely if the established date is within the required period for reply. The Certificate should be signed by the individual actually

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### **Certificate of Mailing**

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Please refer to 37 CFR 1.6(d) and 1.8(a)(2) for filing limitations concerning facsimile transmissions and mailing, respectively.



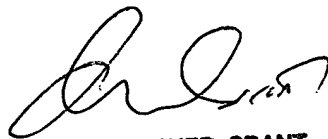
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dominic D. Saltarelli whose telephone number is (571) 272-7302. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:00am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Grant can be reached on (571) 272-7294. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Dominic Saltarelli  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2611

DS



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